



City Administrator's Report

April 2010

Dear Reader,

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.

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Key Meetings	2
Community Events	2
Flags on State Street	4
City Administrator's Office	4
City Set to Release Recommended Budget	4
Earth Day.	5
2010 Census Forms	5
Administrative Services Department	5
Neighborhood Building Activity	5
Airport Department	6
Rental Car Facility Ribbon Cutting.	6
World War II Aircraft Visits SBA.	6
Restoration of Lantern for New Terminal Entry.	6
Community Development Department	6
Plan Santa Barbara.	6
Planning Commission Update.	7
Alternate Giving and Panhandling Education Campaign.	7
Finance Department	7
Electronics Recycling Event.	8
Community Cleanup	8
Fire Department	8
Defensible Space Chipping Services.	8
Register for Reverse 9-1-1.	8
Heat Gun Causes Small Fire With Devastating Potential.	9
Library Department	9
Library Board Seeks Public Input.	9
Starting a New Chapter at the Eastside Library.	9
Parks and Recreation Department	9
Carrillo Recreation Center Rehabilitation Update	9
Safe Summer Fundraiser	9
Summer Youth Programs	10
Playground Reopened at Eastside Neighborhood Park	10
Police Department	10
Cell Phone Enforcement.	10
Public Works Department	10

Review of Capital Improvement Program.....	10
Utility Rate Increases Proposed for Fiscal Year 2011.....	10
New Street Sign Hotline	11
Loma Alta Pedestrian Improvements.	11
West Beach Pedestrian Improvement Project.....	11
West Downtown Pedestrian Improvement Project.	11
Waterfront Department	11
Sapphire Princess to Visit Santa Barbara. Sapphire Princess, a	11
Harbor Nautical Swap Meet.	12
Celebrating Maritime.	12

Key Meetings

City Council Meetings

Tuesday, April 20th, 27th, and May 4th and 11th
at 2 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers at 2
p.m.

Special City Council Meeting – Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Public Hearing

Thursday, April 22nd at 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 29th at 9 a.m.

Monday, May 3rd at 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 5th at 10 a.m.

Monday, May 10th at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 12th at 1:30 p.m.

All meetings will take place in City Hall Council
Chambers.

Community Events

40th Annual Earth Day

Saturday, April 17th, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and
Sunday, April 18th, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Learn about ways to be green at home and at
work while enjoying music and entertainment.

Santa Barbara Founding Day

Saturday, April 17th, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at
El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic
Park. Celebrate Santa Barbara's 228th
Birthday.

Administrative Professionals Day

Wednesday, April 21st. The City honors its administrative assistants and professional secretaries, a worldwide observance recognized by the International Association of Administrative Professionals.

World War II Aircraft Tours

Friday, April 23rd, from 2 to 5 p.m. at ramp south of Federal Aviation Administration Control Tower off Arnold Place. Self-guided ground tours aboard the *B17 Aluminum Overcast* bomber will be offered to the public for an admission fee of \$5 per adult and \$15 per family.

Electronics Recycling Event

Friday, April 23rd, and Saturday, April 24th, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Sears parking lot at La Cumbre Plaza. Residents are invited to drop off their recyclable electronics such as computers, microwaves, and televisions.

Safe Summer Fundraiser

Friday, April 23rd, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. aboard the Condor Express. Sunset cruise hosted by Park and Recreation Community Foundation (PARC) will benefit a safe summer program for community's neediest youth.

21st Annual Santa Barbara Fair and Expo

Wednesday, April 28th through Sunday, May 2nd at the Earl Warren Showgrounds. Enjoy rides, music, and entertainment. For more information, visit: www.SBFairandExpo.com.

19th Annual Cinco de Mayo Festival

Saturday, May 1st and Sunday, May 2nd in Plaza de la Guerra and Casa de la Guerra. Enjoy food, music, dance, and other entertainment. For more information, visit: www.cinodemayosb.com.

Looking Good Santa Barbara 8th Annual Community Cleanup

Saturday, May 15th, from 9 a.m. to Noon at the corner of Soledad and Yanonali Streets. Volunteers will tidy up neighborhoods by cleaning up graffiti and litter, planting trees, and participating in other beautification projects.

Harbor Nautical Swap Meet

Saturday, May 15th, from 8 a.m. to Noon at the Main Harbor parking lot near Marina 3. Shop for boat gear, anchors and tackle, and other nautical equipment.

9th Annual Sea Festival

Saturday, May 15th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Santa Barbara Maritime Museum. Families can enjoy activities and demonstrations that celebrate local maritime history.

Flags on State Street: www.santabarbaradowntown.com**Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center**

April 12th through 23rd

Girls Inc.

April 23rd through 30th

Cinco de Mayo

April 30th through May 7th

Junior League

May 7th through 17th

City Administrator's Office

City Set to Release Recommended Budget. The Fiscal Year 2011 Recommended Budget is scheduled for presentation to Council on Tuesday, April 20th, marking the beginning of Council and public review. To address a projected \$9 million shortfall, the Recommended Budget will include a combination of cost reduction measures and increased fees. A key strategy is working with the City's seven labor unions to generate cost savings through wage and benefit reductions. Since these costs make up over 75% of the City's operating expenses, employee salary and benefit concessions are anticipated to help close the budget shortfall and avoid major service reductions. To the extent labor concessions are not realized, the Recommended Budget will also include a list of potential budget options for Council consideration.

The following table lists upcoming City Council Budget Work Sessions for each department.

Date and Time	Department Budget Presentation
Thursday, April 22 nd , from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.	Mayor and Council, City Administrator's Office, Administrative Services, Finance, and Non-Departmental
Thursday, April 29 th , 9 a.m. to Noon	City Attorney's Office and Public Works
Wednesday, May 5 th , 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Community Development/Redevelopment Agency, Library
Monday, May 10 th , 6 to 9 p.m.	Parks and Recreation
Wednesday, May 12 th , 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.	Airport, Waterfront, and Solid Waste

Public budget review meetings with City Council will be held through June, culminating in the Council's adoption by June 30th.

Earth Day. The City is celebrating Earth Day by participating in the Community Environmental Council's 40th Annual Earth Day Festival on Saturday, April 17th, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 18th, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Alameda Park. The Sustainable Santa Barbara program will host an educational booth in which people can learn about the City's environmental programs and policies. The booth will also provide resources to encourage people to be more green at home and at work. In addition, the public is encouraged to come to Earth Day car-free by taking advantage of free MTD rides before noon. This year's festivities include a Green Shorts Film Festival, which will showcase two-minute environmental films, as well as a Green Home Pavilion. For more information about Earth Day, visit: www.SBEarthDay.org.

2010 Census Forms. Last month, local residents received their 2010 census forms in the mail. The forms should have already been completed and mailed back. For local residents who need additional help filling out the forms, Questionnaire Assistance Centers are available, which are staffed by Census Bureau representatives who provide special language assistance and can help answer general questions. The following is a list of centers available to the public through Monday, April 19th:

- Cantwells Market, 24 West Figueroa Street
- Westside Center, 423 West Victoria Street
- Central Library, 40 East Anapamu Street
- Super Cucas Restaurant, 626 West Micheltorena Street
- Transition House, 425 East Cota Street
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 227 North Nopal Street
- Franklin Center, 1136 Montecito Street

Questionnaire Assistance Centers have different hours of operation and locations. To find a center nearest to you, visit: www.countyofsb.org/2010census.

Administrative Services Department

Supervising Senior Accountant Position. The City is currently recruiting for the position of Supervising Senior Accountant. The position will perform a variety of professional level accounting and supervisory duties in the City's Utility Billing and Customer Service program. For more information, visit the [City's website](#).

Neighborhood Building Activity. Residents who want to know more about a specific construction project on private property can learn all about it on the Neighborhood Building Activity application available on the City's website. Visitors to this site can click on a map of City neighborhoods to find the specific project, or view lists of building permit activity and pending and approved projects in the neighborhood for the previous six months, as well as residential zoning information. This information is displayed from the City's permit plan database and is continuously updated. For the most up-to-date neighborhood building activity, visit the [City's website](#).

Airport Department

March Passenger Count Up Slightly. In March, 60,613 airline passengers were served at Santa Barbara Airport (SBA), an increase of 2.8% compared to 58,950 passengers in March 2009. The highest average passenger loads were aboard the *United* flights to Denver (89.7%), *Horizon Air* flights to Seattle (82.1%) and *Delta* flights to Salt Lake City (79.0%). Overall, the passenger count is down 3% for the first quarter of 2010.

Rental Car Facility Ribbon Cutting. On Thursday, May 6th at 9:30 a.m., community leaders will commemorate the recent completion of the new rental car service facility at 25 David Love Place off of Hollister Avenue. While vehicle rentals remain adjacent to the Airline Terminal, the new Quick-Turn-Around (QTA) operation replaces the rental car service area at the Terminal. The 3.6 acre QTA facility includes a 10,000 square foot light maintenance and support building, car wash bays, a fueling operation, and secure storage for more than 300 vehicles.

World War II Aircraft Visits SBA. The local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association will host tour and flight experiences aboard the beautifully restored *B17 Aluminum Overcast* bomber. This aircraft is an icon of the strategic bombing effort of Allied forces that helped turn the tide of World War II. Self-guided ground tours will be offered from Friday, April 23rd to Sunday, April 25th, from 2 to 5 p.m. on the ramp south of the Federal Aviation Administration Control Tower, off Arnold Place. The cost of admission is \$5 per adult and \$15 per family. Half-hour flight tours cost \$400 per person. For more information, visit: www.flysba.com or www.B17.org.

Restoration of Lantern for New Terminal Entry. A historic 1930s lantern is being restored for the entrance of the new Airline Terminal building. The hanging lantern, which is six-feet tall with beveled glass panes, is currently being restored with energy-efficient lighting. The lantern originally hung in the Santa Barbara County Courthouse Hall of Records and is on loan from the Santa Barbara Courthouse Legacy Foundation. It is one of several new public art pieces that will serve to enrich the experience of visitors to the new Airline Terminal and reflect the history and culture of the region.

Community Development Department

Plan Santa Barbara. *Plan Santa Barbara* is the City's process of updating its General Plan. The General Plan shapes the future of the City by providing guidelines and environmental review of growth and potential future development.

The public is encouraged to review General Plan documents, including the Draft Environmental Impact Report, Draft Land Use Element, Draft Land Use Map, and Draft Housing Element. The documents are available at the Planning Division at 630 Garden Street, the Main Library at 40 East Anapamu Street, the Eastside Library at 1102 Montecito Street, and online at: www.YouPlanSB.org.

Residents have a 60-day period during which they can make comments about the draft documents. The comment period is underway and will continue through Monday, May 17th at

4:30 p.m. Comments should be mailed or dropped off at: 630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93102 and addressed to the attention of John Ledbetter. Comments can also be emailed to: Info@YouPlanSB.org or JLedbetter@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

In addition, the public is invited to give their input during Planning Commission meetings in City Hall Council Chambers on Wednesday, April 28th at 9 a.m., Thursday, April 29th at 1 p.m. (tentative), and Thursday, May 6th at 1 p.m. The City Council is tentatively scheduled to adopt the General Plan Update this Fall. For more information, visit: www.YouPlanSB.org.

Planning Commission Update. This month, the Planning Commission will meet and discuss the following significant items:

On Thursday, April 22nd, a decision will be made on the proposal to add an Ozonator facility to the Cater Water Treatment Plant at 1150 San Roque Road. Presentations on the Community Development Department Budget, Streets Capital Improvement Program budget, and the status of the Highway 101 construction will also be made.

On Thursday, April 28th, the Planning Commission will hear a presentation on *Plan Santa Barbara* documents and take public comment. The meeting will continue on Thursday, April 29th, if necessary.

Alternate Giving and Panhandling Education Campaign. In November 2009, City Council approved the Panhandling Education and Alternate Giving Campaign, which includes educating the public about the negative cycle of panhandling and redirecting the generosity of the community to support individuals in need. The City, along with Casa Esperanza, Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, and the Downtown Organization will hold a press conference to educate the community about the campaign on Tuesday, April 20th, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Santa Barbara Foundation Courtyard located at 15 East Carrillo Street.

Finance Department

Transient Occupancy Tax and Sales Tax. Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), a major revenue source for the City's General Fund, is a tax imposed on guests for staying in any hotel, inn, motel, or other commercial lodging establishment for 30 days or less. February TOT was up 4.3% over the previous February, excluding vacation and rental audit revenue. This is an improvement from the 6.5% estimated decline. The Film Festival could have contributed to the increase. Year-to-date, TOT is down 10.1% and the revised year-end estimate is a 9.5% decline.

Sales tax is also another major revenue source for the City's General Fund. Sales tax for the quarter ending December 31, 2009 was \$4,377,436, down 3.3% from the previous December quarter. It marks the eighth consecutive quarterly decline, but breaks double-digit consecutive declines for the previous four quarters. Year-to-date, the City's sales tax is down 10.5%. Statewide, sales tax was down 6% for the December quarter.

Electronics Recycling Event. The public is invited to participate in the City's electronics Collection and Recycling Event. The City will be accepting recyclable electronics such as televisions, computer monitors and central processing units, keyboards, printers, mice, microwaves, fax machines, hard drives, and more. All hard drives will be completely destroyed and recycled in compliance with standards of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act. The event will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 23rd and 24th, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Sears parking lot at La Cumbre Plaza. For more information, call the City's Environmental Services Division at 564-5631.

Community Cleanup. *Looking Good Santa Barbara* is a City program that encourages the community to reduce visual blight, such as litter and graffiti, and to promote recycling practices through special projects. *Looking Good Santa Barbara* is holding its 8th Annual Community Cleanup on Saturday, May 15th, from 9 a.m. to Noon. During this event, volunteers will join together to tidy up local neighborhoods by cleaning up graffiti and litter, planting trees, assisting with electronic waste collection events, and participating in other beautification projects. Volunteers will meet at Eastside Park, on the corner of Soledad and Yanonali Streets and will work in the surrounding neighborhood. All equipment for this event will be provided. For more information, contact the City's Environmental Specialist Lorraine Cruz Carpenter at 448-0886.

Fire Department

Defensible Space Chipping Services. Property owners who live in the Wildland Fire Suppression Benefit Assessment District are invited to participate in the City's free chipping service program. Chipping services are a cost-effective way to dispose of cut vegetation and encourage property owners to create a defensible space to protect their homes and neighborhood during fires. The following is a list of the chip areas and dates for the remainder of the year:

Neighborhood	Date
Las Canoas	Monday, April 19 th
Sheffield/Parma	Monday, May 3 rd
Westmont/Circle Drive	Monday, May 17 th
Coyote Road	Monday, May 31 st
West Mountain	Monday, June 14 th

Property owners will be notified of chipping services in their neighborhood about one to two weeks before their scheduled date. Chipping will take place between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the above dates. For directions on how to participate in the City's chipping service program, visit the City's website at: www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Register for Reverse 9-1-1. The Reverse 9-1-1 system is a communications tool that is used to facilitate urgent and necessary notifications to citizens during emergencies like wildfires and floods. Reverse 9-1-1 sends a recorded message through phones lines to homes and businesses in Santa Barbara County affected by an emergency. All listed and non-listed landline phone numbers and businesses are already registered, but because of the increasing popularity of cell phones, it is now necessary to include wireless device numbers in the database. Citizens can now voluntarily register cell phones and email addresses to receive notifications in the event of an emergency. To register, visit the [County's website](#).

Heat Gun Causes Small Fire With Devastating Potential. In mid-March, firefighters responded to a report from the property owner of smoke in the two-story residence on the 1700 Block of Olive Avenue. When firefighters responded, they noticed light smoke in the first floor living room. A paint removal operation using a heat gun was taking place on the exterior of the building and had inadvertently started a fire. Firefighters used a thermal imager to check for heat throughout the structure after light smoke was detected in the attic. Although heat guns are commonly used to remove paint, this fire illustrates the danger of using this type of operation on a residential structure. Typically, these fires start within a concealed space and can go unnoticed and can be extremely difficult to extinguish.

Library Department

Library Board Seeks Public Input. This month, the Board of Library Trustees for the Santa Barbara Public Library held a meeting for the public to learn about proposed changes in library services due to budget constraints. The public attended the meeting to provide feedback about the services they would like preserved. The public also reviewed the results of a recent library user survey. Library Director Irene Macias described recent trends in the usage of the Central and Eastside Libraries and discussed recent changes in service levels, the impacts of increased demands for services and materials, and possible strategies for coping with anticipated budget reductions.

Starting a New Chapter at the Eastside Library. A renovation and equipment upgrade project at the Eastside Library was completed last month. The main adult section of the Library now has more public internet computers, new painting, carpeting, furniture, and energy-efficient lighting. The public attended a grand reopening event in March, which included live entertainment, arts and craft activities, and bilingual story time. The improvements at the Eastside Library were made possible by a generous donation from local resident Rose Karat.

Parks and Recreation Department

Carrillo Recreation Center Rehabilitation Update. The rehabilitation of the Carrillo Recreation Center is currently underway. So far, windows and two sewer laterals have been replaced. A new roof made of reused ceramic tiles has also been installed. The interior of the building will include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements, new plumbing and electrical systems, seismic and tenant improvements, and restoration of several historic features. The City expects to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification through the project's use of green building materials and construction techniques. The ballroom portion of the structure is expected to open in late May and the rest of the building is expected to open in early 2011. This project is funded by the Redevelopment Agency.

Safe Summer Fundraiser. The Park and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation is hosting a sunset cruise on the Condor Express to raise funds for summer youth programs. Funds will support a fun and safe summer camp program for 600 of the community's neediest

youth. The sunset cruise will be held on Friday, April 23rd, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information and tickets, call the PARC Foundation at 280-9799.

Summer Youth Programs. Registration for summer camps and programs is underway. This year, there are more than 20 full-day and half-day camps and sports clinics available for local youth. For more information, or to register, visit: www.sbparksandrecreation.com/summerfun.

Registration for the City's Junior Lifeguard summer program will be open for registration beginning Saturday, April 17th, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Registration can be completed at the Cabrillo Pavilion Bathhouse on 1118 East Cabrillo Boulevard or online at: www.parksandrecreation.com.

Playground Reopened at Eastside Neighborhood Park. After less than three weeks of construction, a new playground has been installed at Eastside Neighborhood Park on Soledad and Yanonali Streets. The old playground deteriorated over the years and had to be replaced. The new playground is now open for play. The cost of this playground was \$74,000 and made possible by Community Development Block Grant funding.

Police Department

Cell Phone Enforcement. The use of cell phones while driving is a distraction that has proven to be dangerous for both motorists and pedestrians. The Santa Barbara Police Department actively enforces state law that prohibits motorists from using a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle. Drivers who do not use a hands-free device such as an ear plug, headset, or Blue Tooth device will be cited by local law enforcement. In addition, the Wireless Communications Device Law makes it an infraction to write, send, or read text-based communication on a cell phone while driving. The Police Department advises that all drivers should simply pull over to a safe location to make a call, or to write or read text messages and emails.

Public Works Department

Review of Capital Improvement Program. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2011-2016 is developed by the City to provide a balanced program for capital improvements given anticipated funding revenues over a six-year planning period. The CIP illustrates unmet capital needs based on projected funding levels and provides a plan to develop or accomplish Capital projects. The 2011-2016 CIP includes bridge replacement projects and on-going infrastructure maintenance projects such as street and parking lot maintenance. The total cost of needed capital improvements is approximately \$522 million over six years. A copy of the CIP is available for review in the City Clerk's Office.

Utility Rate Increases Proposed for Fiscal Year 2011. A Public Hearing regarding proposed utility rate increases has been scheduled for Tuesday June 15th, at 2 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers. The increases are necessary to offset the increasing costs of operating the water and wastewater systems, and to meet contractual obligations to compensate the City's trash haulers for the cost of doing business. Water rates are proposed to increase by 3.5%, sewer rates by 4%, and trash/recycling rates by 2.9%. New rates would be effective on utility bills dated July 1st or later.

New Street Sign Hotline. The public is encouraged to call the City's new street sign hotline number to report street and traffic signs that are in need of replacement or repair, such as signs that are vandalized, damaged, or missing. Callers should leave a message with a description of the sign, its location, nearest cross street, and the problem. Messages will be checked daily by the Public Works Street Division Sign Crew Leader. The new street sign hotline number is 560-7569.

Loma Alta Pedestrian Improvements. Last month, renovations were completed on Loma Alta Drive between Cliff Drive and San Andreas Street. This shortcut to the Mesa now has a sidewalk and street lighting to enhance pedestrian safety. A new rest area was added to provide a comfortable location for pedestrians to enjoy a scenic view of the City. Slurry seal will be placed on the street surface in this area before summer.

West Beach Pedestrian Improvement Project. The project on Cabrillo Boulevard between State and Castillo Streets is scheduled to be completed next month. The goal of the project is to integrate the West Beach Neighborhood and improve the pedestrian linkage between Stearns Wharf and the Harbor area. Work includes replacing the sidewalk along the West Cabrillo Boulevard promenade between Stearns Wharf and Castillo Street. Enhanced brick crosswalks with pedestrian amenities will improve the safety and overall appearance of West Cabrillo Boulevard. New plazas at Chapala Street, Ambassador Park, Bath Street, and Los Baños Pool will create areas of interest, as well as Americans with Disabilities Act access to the multi-modal beach path. New landscaping and public art at these plazas will further enhance the pedestrian experience.

West Downtown Pedestrian Improvement Project. The West Downtown Pedestrian Improvement Project is more than halfway done. The Westside corridors along Anapamu and Ortega Streets that extend from Highway 101 pedestrian overbridges to Chapala Street and into the City's commercial core are being significantly enhanced. So far, the Ortega Street corridor has been completed. Pedestrian safety has been improved through lighting, sidewalk replacement, enhanced crosswalks, and bulb outs. The area has also been enhanced through the installation of new street trees and drought-tolerant landscaping. The public should be aware of the following upcoming traffic restrictions in effect through the end of May: West Anapamu Street closure between Bath and De la Vina Streets, and West Anapamu Street temporary lane closures between De la Vina and Chapala Street.

Waterfront Department

Sapphire Princess to Visit Santa Barbara. *Sapphire Princess*, a 943-foot cruise ship, will make a one-day port visit to Santa Barbara in mid-May. The ship will anchor about one mile outside the Santa Barbara Harbor in the early morning and depart in the afternoon. Approximately 1,800 to 2,200 passengers are expected to be aboard the ship. To accommodate the public and passengers, arrangements have been made for increased MTD shuttle service for the downtown and waterfront areas and Coast Village Road in Montecito. Hospitality will be coordinated between the Conference and Visitors Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Organization, and other local groups. Security will be coordinated between the ship, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Police Department, and Sea Landing. Garbage and sewage is self-

contained within the ship and there will be no dumping of any kind within 12 miles of the Santa Barbara coastline.

Harbor Nautical Swap Meet. The public is invited to attend a swap meet at the Santa Barbara Harbor which will feature dozens of vendors, refreshments, and hidden treasures. The swap meet is a great place to look for anchors and tackle, tools, boat gear, and other nautical equipment. The annual event is hosted by the Waterfront Department in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Harbor Merchants Association. The event is free to the public and will be held on Saturday, May 15th, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Main Harbor parking lot near Marina 3.

Celebrating Maritime. The 9th Annual Sea Festival kicks off by entertaining the public with a presentation of the sailboat, *Ocean Watch*, a research vessel that is on a 25,000-mile sailing circumnavigation of the American continents. Its mission is to inspire, educate, and engage people to protect our oceans. A planned flotilla will welcome the vessel to Santa Barbara on Friday, May 14th at 4 p.m. All other festivities take place on Saturday, May 15th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Santa Barbara Maritime Museum will highlight its interactive science program with demonstrations and activities that celebrate local maritime history and traditions. A special presentation by the crew of the *Around the Americas* expedition will take place inside the museum at 4 p.m. For more information, visit: www.sbmm.org.